

Congressman Jo Bonner Reaction to Pentagon Release of

Aerial Tanker Request for Proposal (RFP)

"Five months after the Air Force released its flawed draft request for proposal, senior Pentagon officials have presented a final proposal which hardly deviates from the original. While the full details will require more study, the Pentagon has apparently ignored calls from Congress and industry for an aerial tanker that meets evolving mission requirements, and has endorsed a minimum capability aircraft design that sadly appears to favor one of the bidders.

Two months after coming to office, the Obama administration issued a memorandum instructing its senior executive branch officials against sole-source, non competitive government contracts.

It is profoundly disappointing that the Pentagon has chosen to create the potential for a non competitive situation not by setting the highest mission requirements to benefit our warfighter, but rather by lowering the criteria by which the competitors are evaluated."

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